

TABLE 51. U.S. patent applications and patents issued, by industry and company size: 2012  
(Number)

Industry and company size	NAICS code	Applications	Patents issued <sup>a</sup>
All industries	21–23, 31–33, 42–81	131,775	84,160
Manufacturing industries	31–33	88,325	57,554
Food	311	2,439	1,293
Beverage and tobacco products	312	411	269
Textile, apparel, and leather products	313–16	594	429
Wood products	321	75	43
Paper	322	2,164	939
Printing and related support activities	323	179	131
Petroleum and coal products	324	569	362
Chemicals	325	12,527	8,084
Basic chemicals	3251	2,165	905
Resin, synthetic rubber, and artificial synthetic fibers and filaments	3252	777	432
Pesticide, fertilizer, and other agricultural chemical	3253	1,136	640
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	3254	6,411	4,710
Soap, cleaning compound, and toilet preparation	3256	1,273	945
Paint, coating, adhesive, and other chemicals	3255, 3259	765	451
Plastics and rubber products	326	2,826	1,549
Nonmetallic mineral products	327	868	465
Primary metals	331	424	262
Fabricated metal products	332	2,155	1,256
Machinery	333	9,774	5,884
Agricultural implement	33311	588	395
Semiconductor machinery	333295	1,012	663
Engine, turbine, and power transmission equipment	3336	3,571	2,385
Other machinery	other 333	4,603	2,441
Computer and electronic products	334	29,906	22,492
Communications equipment	3342	6,227	4,031
Semiconductor and other electronic components	3344	13,711	10,523
Navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments	3345	5,732	4,194
Electromedical, electrotherapeutic, and irradiation apparatus	334510, 334517	1,628	1,061
Search, detection, navigation, guidance, aeronautical, and nautical system and instrument	334511	2,145	1,999
Other measuring and controlling device	other 3345	1,959	1,134
Other computer and electronic products	other 334	4,235	3,744
Electrical equipment, appliances, and components	335	3,262	1,811
Transportation equipment	336	8,557	5,396
Automobiles, bodies, trailers, and parts	3361–63	5,026	3,044
Aerospace products and parts	3364	3,284	2,208
Aircraft, aircraft engine, and aircraft parts	336411–13	3,186	2,122
Guided missile, space vehicle, and related parts	336414–15, 336419	98	86
Military armored vehicle, tank, and tank component	336992	D	D
Other transportation	other 336	D	D
Furniture and related products	337	427	224
Miscellaneous manufacturing	339	11,166	6,666
Medical equipment and supplies	3391	7,495	4,564
Other miscellaneous manufacturing	3399	3,671	2,103
Nonmanufacturing industries	21–23, 42–81	43,450	26,606
Mining, extraction, and support activities	21	3,191	1,639
Utilities	22	89	D
Wholesale trade	42	1,389	1,292
Electronic shopping and electronic auctions	454111–12	1,643	432
Transportation and warehousing	48–49	78	36
Information	51	21,648	16,806
Publishing	511	9,318	10,667
Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers	5111	6	0

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Industry and company size	NAICS code	Applications	Patents issued <sup>a</sup>
Software publishers	5112	9,312	10,667
Telecommunications	517	2,701	2,774
Data processing, hosting, and related services	518	2,377	1,866
Other information	other 51	7,252	1,498
Finance and insurance	52	1,151	612
Real estate and rental and leasing	53	2,193	D
Lessors of nonfinancial intangible assets (except copyrighted works)	533	2,184	410
Other real estate and rental and leasing	other 53	9	D
Professional, scientific, and technical services	54	10,537	4,868
Architectural, engineering, and related services	5413	1,007	419
Computer systems design and related services	5415	2,388	1,015
Scientific research and development services	5417	5,916	3,050
Biotechnology research and development	541711	3,132	1,492
Physical, engineering, and life sciences (except biotechnology) research and development	541712	2,755	1,546
Social sciences and humanities research and development	541720	28	12
Other professional, scientific, and technical services	other 54	1,226	385
Health care services	621–23	205	83
Other nonmanufacturing	23, 44–45 (excluding 454111–12), 55–56, 624, 71–72, 81	1,327	400
All companies (number of domestic employees)	–	131,775	84,160
Small companies <sup>b</sup>			
5–499	–	34,617	15,820
5–99	–	23,450	9,524
5–49	–	17,774	6,317
5–9	–	2,457	1,029
10–24	–	9,663	3,040
25–49	–	5,654	2,248
50–99	–	5,676	3,206
100–249	–	6,087	3,044
250–499	–	5,080	3,251
Medium and large companies			
500–999	–	5,151	3,190
1,000–4,999	–	17,870	11,778
5,000–9,999	–	11,744	9,301
10,000–24,999	–	24,128	12,637
25,000 or more	–	38,265	31,434

D = data withheld to avoid disclosing operations of individual companies.

NAICS = 2007 North American Industry Classification System.

<sup>a</sup> For a small number of companies issued more than 100 patents by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), counts from USPTO.gov were used to supplement survey data.

<sup>b</sup> The upper bound is based on the U.S. Small Business Administration's definition of a small business; the Business R&D and Innovation Survey does not include companies with fewer than five domestic employees.

NOTES: Detail may not add to total because of rounding. The industry classification is based on the dominant business code for domestic R&D performance, where available. For companies that did not report business codes, the classification used for sampling was assigned. Statistics are representative of companies located in the United States that performed or funded R&D. Statistics are based on companies in the United States that reported to the survey. These statistics do not include an adjustment to the weight to account for unit nonresponse.

SOURCE: National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, and U.S. Census Bureau, Business R&D and Innovation Survey, 2012.